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Attorney Docket No. 1359.1020

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of:

Naomi IWAYAMA

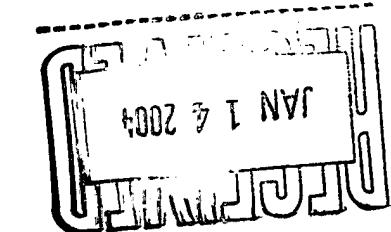
Application No.: 09/457,267

Group Art Unit: 2176

Filed: December 9, 1999

Examiner: Charles A. Bieneman

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR ENTERING A CHARACTER STRING



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JAN 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

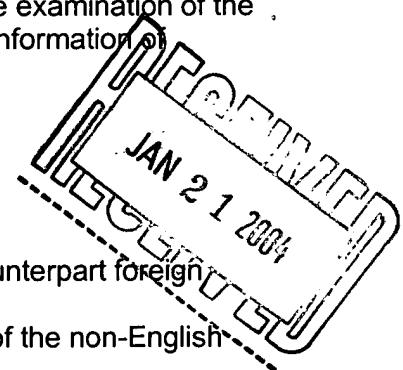
1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a.  Form PTO-1449.
- 1b.  Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c.  An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d.  English language translation (partial) attached to some of the non-English language publications.
- 1e.  Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f.  List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g.  List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2.  This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

*(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)*

- 2a.  Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b.  Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c.  Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d.  Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.



3.  This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND

*(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)*

3a.  The §1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR  
3b.  The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:  
 enclosed.  
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

4.  This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND

4a.  The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND  
4b.  The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:  
 enclosed.  
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

5.  Statement under § 1.97(e) (*applicable if Item 3a or Item 4a is checked*)

*(Check either Item 5a or 5b)*

5a.  In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

5b.  In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6.  This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).

*(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)*

6a.  Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

6b.  Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

7.  This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

(Check either Item 7a or 7b)

7a.  The Issue Fee has not been paid.  
7b.  A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.

8.  This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

(Check either Item 8a or 8b)

8a.  This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on \_\_\_. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on \_\_\_.

8b.  This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed \_\_\_.

9.  In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)

9a.  satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, 8th Ed.)

9b.  set forth in the application.

9c.  satisfied because an English language translation (partial) is attached to some of the non-English language publications.

9d.  enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.

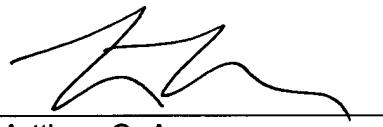
10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By:

  
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Registration No. 50,346

Dated: 1-9-2004  
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Sheet 1 of 1

|   |  |                                       |                               |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449   | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.<br>1359.1020      | APPLICATION NO.<br>09/457,267 |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT<br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> |  | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR<br>Naomi IWAYAMA |                               |
|   |  | FILING DATE<br>December 9, 1999       | GROUP ART UNIT<br>2176        |

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE            |
|-------------------|----|--------------|------|------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
|                   | AA |              |      |      |       |           |                        |
|                   | AB |              |      |      |       |           | <b>RECEIVED</b>        |
|                   | AC |              |      |      |       |           | JAN 13 2004            |
|                   | AD |              |      |      |       |           |                        |
|                   | AE |              |      |      |       |           | Technology Center 2100 |
|                   | AF |              |      |      |       |           |                        |

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE     | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES    NO |
|--|----|--------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | AG | JP5067079    | 03/19/93 | Japan   |       |           | partial                  |
|  | AH |              |          |         |       |           |                          |
|  | AI |              |          |         |       |           |                          |
|  | AJ |              |          |         |       |           |                          |
|  | AK |              |          |         |       |           |                          |
|  | AL |              |          |         |       |           |                          |

#### OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

TRANSLATION  
YES    NO

|  |    |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|
|  | AM |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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ATTACHMENT 1(g)

|   |                      |                 |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>LIST OF ADDITIONAL SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS</b> | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  | APPLICATION NO. |
|   | 1359.1020            | 09/457,267      |
|   | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR |                 |
|   | Naomi IWAYAMA        |                 |
| FILING DATE                                   | GROUP ART UNIT       |                 |
| December 9, 1999                              | 2176                 |                 |

The following document(s) is/are listed in accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, so that the Examiner may consider same should he deem any thereof to be material to examination of the subject application. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of any identified copending application(s) is provided.

It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge his consideration of document(s) below-listed by initialling same in the space provided adjacent each such application and that the Examiner sign and date this form at the bottom thereof to confirm such consideration having been given.

**This submission in no way represents an admission that any of the information listed herein constitutes prior art with respect to the subject application and unless and until such prior art status is established, this submission is not a request that the information presented herein be printed on the face of any patent issuing from the subject application in which this information is being filed.**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE |
|-------------------|----|--------------|------|------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | AA |              |      |      |       |           |             |
|                   | AB |              |      |      |       |           |             |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  |    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES    NO |
|--|----|--------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|--------------------------|
|  | AC |              |      |         |       |           |                          |
|  | AD |              |      |         |       |           |                          |

**OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| TRANSLATION<br>YES    NO |
|--------------------------|

|    |  |  |  |   |
|----|--|--|--|---|
| AE | Japanese Patent Office Action dated December 11, 2003 in Japanese Patent Application No. 11-266929 |  |  | X |
|----|--|--|--|---|

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.